

Name: KEY Date: _____ Section: _____

The Rise of Mesopotamian City-States

Class Notes

Two groups will be presenting on each of the following issues. Compare the two presentations to complete these guided notes.

EVENT	SUMMARY OF EVENT	STUDENT SOLUTION	WHAT HAPPENED IN HISTORY?*
Food Shortage	surplus food caused population increase. so farmland was lost. This led to a food shortage.		People moved to the Mesopotamian plains where there would be more land, even though it was difficult to farm.
Uncontrolled Water Supply	Rivers flooded in spring, washing away seeds and young plants. In summer, hot weather dried up land.		created irrigation system to help control flooding and save water for times of drought
Irrigation System	Canals and ditches would become clogged or need repair. When one part was not working many villages were without water.		Work teams with members from multiple village would walk the miles of canals to clean and repair them (cooperation)
Attacks by Neighbors	Arguments over water increased and villages started fighting.		People built walls and gates to protect their villages. Armies were formed and city-states were created

*This is what historians believe happened based on available archaeological evidence.

irrigation system - canals, dams, and reservoirs used to provide water for crops

cultivate - develop and grow a particular crop, refine or make level - built up sides of rivers to contain water